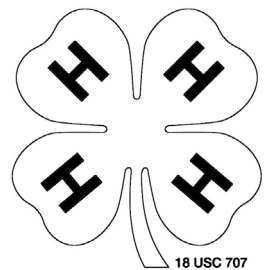




Hendricks County

Mini 4-H

Gardening



Developed by:

Karla Smith, Program Assistant-Purdue Extension Hendricks

Mini 4-H Parent's Page

We welcome you and your child to the Mini 4-H program. Mini 4-H is for youth who are in either first or second grade during the current 4-H year. Mini 4-H is designed to supplement and introduce both first and second graders to the Hendricks County 4-H program.

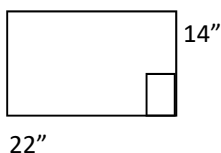
As a Mini 4-H parent, your job is to guide your child through the activities. It is suggested that you do not complete the activities for them. Instead, help them, guide them, work with them, and let them do all that they possibly can. Learning by doing is the best educational tool that we can provide for our youth.

Additionally, the Mini 4-H program is set up to allow your child to exhibit a project at the 4-H Fair. This project is based on information within this manual. The 4-H Fair is an exciting time for 4-H members and families. It is a week that allows community youth to showcase their talents, interests and enthusiasm for learning.

Mini 4-H is fun! Your child will certainly enjoy it. You can have fun too, by guiding and helping as your child participates in the program. Encourage and praise your child as he/she has fun learning and sharing with you.

Rules

1. Mini 4-H is open to any youth who is enrolled in either the first or second grade on January 1st of the current year.
2. Any Mini 4-H participant may enroll in one (1) or two (2) projects. There are 16 projects to choose from. **Participants may exhibit only one (1) activity from a project book at the Hendricks County 4-H Fair (up to 2 projects total).** Additional activities can be done at home, but will not be exhibited.
3. It is encouraged that Mini 4-H participants enroll in the County Mini 4-H club, and their projects are done at home.
4. **ALL POSTER EXHIBITS MUST (NOTE: Not all Mini 4-H exhibits will be on a poster board):**
 - A. Have a solid, stiff backing, which is 14" high by 22" wide. This can be HEAVY cardboard or foam core board. The board must be able to stand by itself (Foam core board is available in the Extension Office for a minimal cost)
 - B. Be positioned HORIZONTALLY.
 - C. Have a total exhibit board no larger than 14" high by 22" wide.



All youth will need to complete Enrollment via 4Honline and Fair Entry will need to be completed by July 1st of the current school year. Exhibit Tags will be ready the week before Fair. More information will be sent home as the Fair approaches.

- D. Be COMPLETELY COVERED with CLEAR PLASTIC material. (Available in the Extension Office for a minimal cost.)
5. Mini 4-H participants will complete activities in the book. The Record Sheet located in the back of the project book needs to be completed and will be turned in with their exhibit at the Fair.

Mini 4-Her's Page

Welcome to Mini 4-H! You are now a member of the 4-H family. You are a special person. Mini 4-Her's have a lot of fun! There are many activities for you to explore. You can try new things. You can share it with your friends and family. Mom, Dad, or another adult can help you with your project. Bring your project to the 4-H Fair and lots of people will be able to see what you have done. You also get a ribbon made just for 4-Her's.

Here a few things to know about 4-H.

The 4-H Symbol: A four-leaf clover with an "H" on each leaf

4-H Colors: Green and White

The 4-H Motto: "To make the best, better"

4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,

I promise to use my head to make good choices.

my **HEART** to greater loyalty,

I promise to use my heart to be a good friend.

My **HANDS** to larger service,

I promise to use my hands to do helpful things for others.

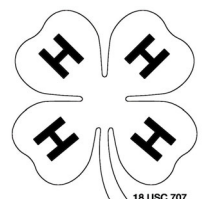
And my **HEALTH** to better living,

I promise to take care of my body and to show others to live in a healthy way.

For my club, my community,

I promise to help my group, my community,

My country, and my world.



Gardening Activities

Do you ever wonder where different vegetables or flowers come from? Would you like to see things grow?

Gardening involves planting a seed in soil and watching it grow. It needs water, sunlight, oxygen, food (soil), and room to grow.

This project will introduce you to plants. Plants are fun to grow. Some are for decoration or pleasure, while others can be used for food. You do not have to have a garden. Many plants can grow in your house or on your porch in pots or plants.

This project will help you learn to read and follow directions, choose an activity, be neat, and have fun.

Before you get started:

- Pick an activity.
- Read the directions carefully.
- Make sure you have all of the needed materials.
 - Ask an adult or teenager to help you.
- Clean up your work area and put your supplies away when you are finished.
 - Complete your Mini 4-H Book pages.
 - ENJOY!

Exhibit

First Grade: - A product from “Seeds in a Bag” Poster or “Container Gardens”
- Completed Record Sheet

Second Grade: - A product of “Grow a Green Bean Plant”, or “Grow a Potato Vine”
- Completed Record Sheet

First Grade

Seeds in a Bag

Needed Materials:

- Plastic self-closing bag
- Paper Towel
- Water
- Tape
- Beans (Lima or Kidney)
- **Growth Chart**, in manual
- Pencil or Crayon
- Poster Board (see page 3)

Directions:

Draw a picture of your seed on Day 1 on your **Growth Chart**.

Soak the beans in water overnight.

Draw a picture of your bean when you see a change. Draw it on your **Growth Chart**.

Lightly wet the paper towel with water. If it is dripping, then it is too wet. Place paper towel in the self-closing bag.

Place beans inside the self-closing bag, making sure they are against the wet paper towel.

Close the bag and tape to a sunny window.

Check the seeds each day and continue drawing pictures on your Growth Chart as you see any changes in your seeds.

Mount your **Growth Chart** on poster board (see page 12). If seeds are not rotten, the self-closing bag may also be displayed. If paper towel is dry, add a few drops of water.

You may transfer your bean plant to a pot if you wish. You will need a pot that will drain (hole in the bottom) and potting soil. **This is not your exhibit!**

Container Gardens

Needed Materials:

- Small size paper bathroom cup
- Garden or Potting Soil
- Small rocks, sand or charcoal
- Seeds (Select a quick growing seed. Grass seed can germinate in 7-14 days)
- Water

Directions:

Carefully fill a small size paper bathroom cup with garden or potting soil

Fill the cup with soil up to 1/2 inch below the top of your cup.

Poke holes in the soil with your finger and place seeds in each hole. Lightly press soil over seeds. Water lightly. Too much water will drown your plant.

Keep the cup in a sunny spot. Water when dry.

Care for your plant at least 3 weeks before displaying.

Second Grade

Grow a Bean Plant

Needed Materials:

- Small size paper bathroom cup
- Bean Seed (Green, wax, lima, etc.)
- Potting Soil
- Water

Directions:

Carefully fill a small size paper bathroom cup with garden or potting soil

Fill the cup with soil up to 1/2 inch below the top of your cup.

Poke holes in the soil with your finger and place seeds in each hole. Lightly press soil over seeds. Water lightly. Too much water will drown your plant.

Keep the cup in a sunny spot. Water when dry.

Care for your plant at least 3 weeks before displaying.

If planning to exhibit this option at the fair, be sure to add the information to FairEntry once the system opens. This will be used to print your exhibit tag for display at the fair.

Grow a Potato Vine

Needed Materials:

- 1 Sweet or White Potato
- 1 Jar
- Water

Directions:

Fill the jar with water.

Place the potato in the top of the jar.

Do not let the potato to fall in to the jar. If the jar is too big, you can stick toothpicks in the potato so it will sit on top of the jar.

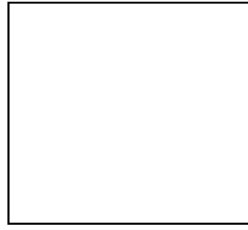
Place in a well lighted area, but not in direct sun.

In a few weeks, leaves will begin to grow and turn in to vines.

When large enough, your plant can be placed in a pot or basket.

My Seed's Growth Chart

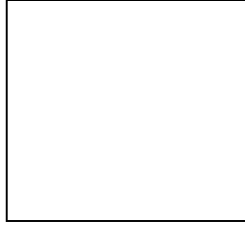
Draw your seed as it appears in the self-closing plastic sandwich bag



Day 1



Day 2



Day 3



Day 4



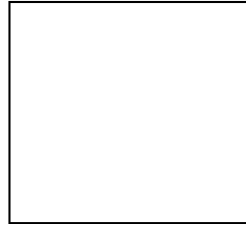
Day 5



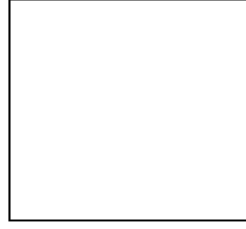
Day 6



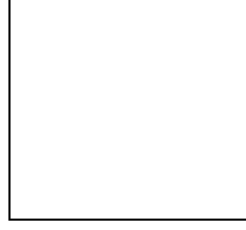
Day 7



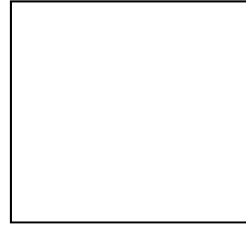
Day 8



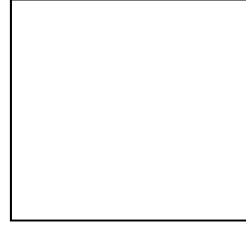
Day 9



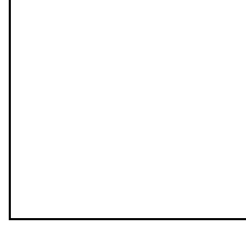
Day 10



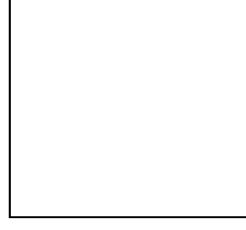
Day 11



Day 12



Day 13



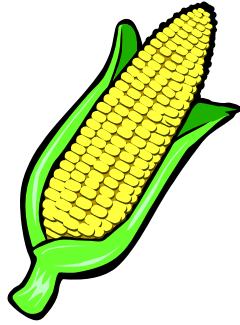
Day 14

Digging for Food!

Draw a circle around the foods that come from under the ground.



Peanuts



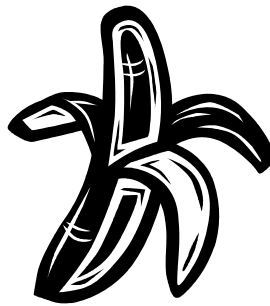
Corn



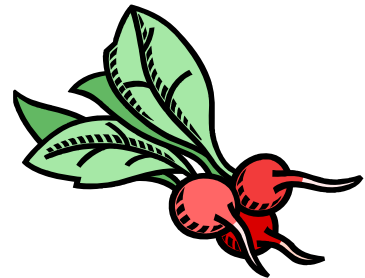
Apples



Carrots



Bananas



Radishes



Tomatoes



Potatoes

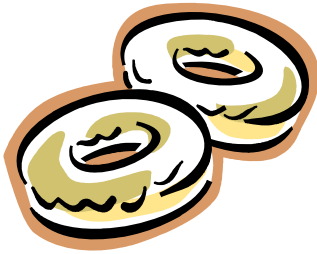


Blackberries

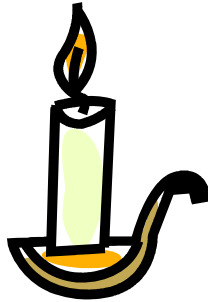
Key: Peanuts, Carrots, Radishes, and Potatoes

What Do Plants Need?

Circle all of the things plants need to grow.



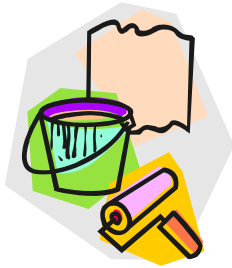
Donuts



Candlelight



Chocolates



Paint



Oxygen



Soil



Cats



Juice



Sunlight



Water

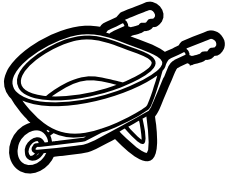


Moonlight

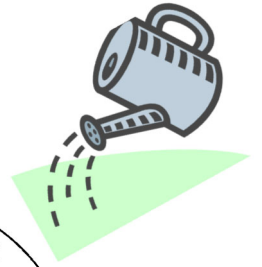


Sandwich

Key: oxygen, soil, sunlight, and water



Gardening Fun



R B E O S A M O L F
U E S P A D E D S V
S A T R L M T E H T
O N N A U P S W O A
S S A K W E E D S N
T G L B J Y O S E P
O B P C O R N E F S
R A V M T E O V L D
R D H O E R A O U E
A T F N K N P L T E
C E T B U S H G J S
W O T S E A F H L T

Find these words in the word search above

BEANS

HOE

SPADE

BUSH

HOSE

STEM

CARROTS

PLANTS

SUN

CORN

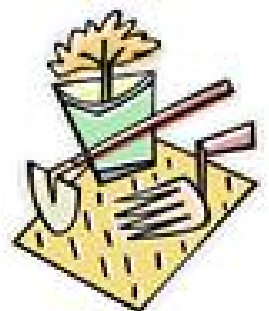
ROOTS

WATER

GLOVES

SEEDS

WEEDS



4-H Fair Exhibit

Listed below are projects you can exhibit at the 4-H Fair judging. Check the fair book for the date and time it is due. The fair book may also list special exhibit rules. You may only exhibit 1 project from this book.

If you have any questions about your projects, please call your Mini 4-H Leader or the Extension Office.

INCLUDE completed Record Sheet with your exhibit.

First Grade

- Seeds in a Bag
- Container Gardens

Second Grade

- Grow Bean Plant
- Grow Potato Vine

Mounting Your Pictures

Needed Materials:

- Rubber Cement or Double Sided Tape
- Scissors
- Poster Board
- Clear Plastic

Directions:

- An adult or teenager can help you cut the poster board. Cut a piece of poster board or foam board so it is 14" high by 22" wide or appropriate sized board available at the Extension Office.
- Use rubber cement or small pieces of double sided tape.
- Arrange the items neatly on your board. Be sure to include a title for your poster.
- Poster must be completely covered by a clear plastic material.

Good Luck at the 4-H Fair!



Mini 4-H Gardening Record Sheet

My favorite part of the project was _____

While doing my gardening project I learned

My favorite vegetable is _____.

Name:

Date:
